

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY AUGUST 7, 2012

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2011–12 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 21

Introduced by Assembly Member Davis

February 16, 2011

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 21—Relative to ~~redistricting~~
Child Support Awareness Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 21, as amended, Davis. ~~Redistricting; incarcerated persons.~~
Family law: Child Support Awareness Month.

This measure would make findings regarding California's child support services program and the importance of child support to children and families, and would declare August 2012 as Child Support Awareness Month.

~~This measure would urge the Citizens Redistricting Commission, in carrying out its redistricting responsibilities following the 2010 decennial federal census, to deem each incarcerated person as residing at his or her last known address prior to incarceration rather than at the institution of his or her incarceration.~~

Fiscal committee: ~~yes-no.~~

- 1 *WHEREAS, The mission of the California Department of Child*
- 2 *Support Services is to enhance the well-being of children and the*
- 3 *self-sufficiency of families by providing professional services to*
- 4 *locate parents, establish paternity, and establish and enforce orders*
- 5 *for financial and medical support; and*
- 6 *WHEREAS, California's child support services program works*
- 7 *with parents, whether they are paying or receiving child support,*

1 *to ensure that children and families receive court-ordered financial*
2 *and medical support; and*

3 *WHEREAS, Child support services are available to the public*
4 *through a network of 51 county and regional child support*
5 *agencies. County professionals work very hard to ensure that the*
6 *children in the program can rely on their parents for the financial*
7 *and medical support that they need to be healthy and successful;*
8 *and*

9 *WHEREAS, Child support collections in California increased*
10 *by \$37 million in the state fiscal year ending in June 2011, with*
11 *the total distributed collections at \$2.3 billion. Of that \$2.3 billion,*
12 *\$1.8 billion was distributed directly to families, and \$500 million*
13 *was distributed to the state and federal government for recoupment*
14 *of public assistance and foster care expenses; and*

15 *WHEREAS, Child support is an effective investment in*
16 *California's future. The child support program increases family*
17 *self-sufficiency, reduces child poverty, and has a positive effect*
18 *on children's educational achievement. Nationally, one in four*
19 *children are served by child support programs; and*

20 *WHEREAS, The focus in 2012 of Child Support Awareness*
21 *Month is the very important role of parents in creating a positive*
22 *environment for their children. Child support provides security,*
23 *instills confidence, maintains trust, and helps to make childhood*
24 *dreams come true; and*

25 *WHEREAS, During the month of August 2012, parents who*
26 *have fallen behind in making their child support payments are*
27 *encouraged to drop by their local child support agency to make a*
28 *payment, seek modification of their child support order, obtain a*
29 *repayment plan, and find out whether they qualify for a*
30 *compromise on an overdue balance; now, therefore, be it*

31 **RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF**
32 **CALIFORNIA, THE SENATE THEREOF CONCURRING, That**
33 *the Legislature proclaims the month of August 2012 as Child*
34 *Support Awareness Month, and encourages all Californians to*
35 *recognize the importance of child support to the happiness and*
36 *security of our children; and be it further*

37 **RESOLVED, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit**
38 *copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.*

39 ~~**WHEREAS, Historically, most state governments, including**~~
40 ~~**California, have counted incarcerated persons as residents of the**~~

1 prison communities in which they are incarcerated when redrawing
2 election district boundaries following the decennial federal census;
3 and

4 ~~WHEREAS, This practice, known as “prison-based~~
5 ~~gerrymandering,” artificially inflates the population count, and~~
6 ~~hence the political influence, of those districts in which prisons~~
7 ~~and jails are located; and~~

8 ~~WHEREAS, Prisoners are not integrated into, and cannot~~
9 ~~establish ties to, the communities in which their institutions of~~
10 ~~incarceration are located, and thus are not properly considered~~
11 ~~residents of those communities; and~~

12 ~~WHEREAS, Under California law, a person does not gain or~~
13 ~~lose a domicile solely by reason of his or her presence or absence~~
14 ~~from a place while kept in a prison; and~~

15 ~~WHEREAS, In 2010, the United States Census Bureau agreed,~~
16 ~~for the first time, to make information regarding prisoner~~
17 ~~population data available to states in time for those figures to be~~
18 ~~taken into account in the electoral redistricting process; and~~

19 ~~WHEREAS, The Citizens Redistricting Commission is vested~~
20 ~~by the California Constitution with the authority to adjust election~~
21 ~~district boundaries for the state’s congressional, Senate, Assembly,~~
22 ~~and Board of Equalization districts following each decennial federal~~
23 ~~census; now, therefore, be it~~

24 ~~*Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*~~
25 ~~*thereof concurring,* That the Legislature urges the Citizens~~
26 ~~Redistricting Commission, in carrying out its redistricting~~
27 ~~responsibilities following the 2010 decennial federal census, to~~
28 ~~deem each incarcerated person as residing at his or her last known~~
29 ~~address prior to incarceration rather than at the institution of his~~
30 ~~or her incarceration; and be it further~~

31 ~~*Resolved,* That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies~~
32 ~~of this resolution to the Citizens Redistricting Commission and to~~
33 ~~the author for appropriate distribution.~~